

**PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA
POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
SEPTEMBER 1993**

SDMS Document



84632

NAME OF PRP:

Crucible Steel Company

FACILITY ADDRESS:

1000 South Fourth Street
Harrison, New Jersey

LOCATION:

River Mile: 3.4
Reference Map Number: 21

PROCESSES UTILIZED:

Manufacture of special purpose steels.

DISCHARGE:

- 12/69 - 09/71 - PVSC reported a yellowish, oily material flowing into the Passaic River from a large culvert owned by Crucible Steel. Crucible reported that while they had eliminated their oil discharge, other companies which leased land on their property were also discharging oil to the Passaic River via their culvert. The other companies which were ordered to abate their oil discharges were: Charles F. Guyon, Meile Brothers Trucking, Aszo Steel, Gabest, Prince Packaging, Joseph Supor, Rose Ribbon and Carbon Manufacturing and Miles A. Galin. The outlet was sealed on March 11, 1971; however an acidic discharge was reported on March 23rd. Crucible subsequently diverted the acid discharge into the sanitary sewer. [PVSC Annual Report For 1971.]

PROBABLE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES:

- Unspecified Acid
- PAHs
- Metals

RIVER SAMPLES: Sediments in Sample 14A, located approximately 280 feet upstream of this discharge point, contained concentrations of arsenic, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, silver and total PAHs above NOAA criteria.

846320001

ANNUAL REPORT

by

Chief Engineer
S. A. LUBETKIN

to the

**PASSAIC VALLEY
SEWERAGE COMMISSIONERS**

FOR THE YEAR

1971



Violation & Elimination - Crucible Steel Co.,
Spaulding Works, 1000 South Fourth Street, Harrison, N.J.
December, 1969 to September 1971 (L. Cuccinello, W. Flem-
ing and J. Colello)

A yellowish oily material flowed into the Passaic River from a large culvert owned by this company. This company claimed that a number of other companies leased land on an industrial tract owned by Crucible Steel Company, and the polluting material was not emanating from Crucible Steel itself, but from one of the other tenants, and therefore, the Crucible Steel Company would not be liable.

The Commissioners maintained that since the culvert from which this material discharged into the Passaic River was owned by Crucible Steel Company, Crucible Steel Company was liable for any polluting material emanating from the culvert. Since there seemed to be a difference of opinion concerning liability, the Commissioners instituted a suit against Crucible Steel Company. An Order to Show Cause was originally returnable on May 15, 1970, but was postponed to July 17, 1970, and continued to September 18, 1970.

On September 18, 1970, Crucible reported they had eliminated all of the pollution emanating within their property and had traced oil to other users of the sewer. They requested additional time to check suspected oil sources on the Charles F. Guyon and the Harris and Sons Steel Companies, and perhaps other parties.

Judge Lynch signed a Civil Action Order, bringing in Charles F. Guyon, Inc., Miele Brothers Trucking Company, Aszo Steel Company, Gabest, Inc., Prince Packaging Products, Inc., Joseph Supor Trucking Company, Rose Ribbon and Carbon Mfg. Co., Inc. (corporations), and Miles A. Galin.

On October 23, 1970, progress reports were submitted and the Commissioners stated that the volume of the pollution had decreased. Crucible was ordered to submit a detailed plan for locating and halting the remaining pollution to Mr. Lubetkin and they were to return to court and report on November 20, 1970. Since work was progressing, the November 20 hearing was postponed to December 4, then to February 11, 1971.

On February 11, Crucible reported to the court that it had located the source of pollution, but since it was from a line coming from other property, Crucible wanted permission of the Court to seal the line. The Court directed the line to be sealed within 30 days,

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violation & Elimination - Crucible Steel Co. (continued)

and all pollution halted within 90 days, or else the Court would consider appointing an outside consultant to recommend whatever necessary be done to halt the pollution, costs to be paid by Crucible Steel.

On March 11, 1971, at 2:00 P.M., the Heyrich Company installed a Cherne plug in the suspected line. A very slight film of oil was noted subsequent to the plug installation, but this could be residual oil from the pipe and banks; however, samples taken on March 23, at 10:30 A. M. and again at 1:00 P.M. showed a low pH, (Acid). Mr. Lubetkin telephoned Mr. Whinn, and confirmed his conversation by a letter dated March 23, requesting that the consultant be immediately informed, so he could locate and halt this acid pollution.

No reply was received, so Mr. Lubetkin wrote again on April 12, informing them that acid was again detected on April 5. The Commissioners received a letter dated April 13, from Mr. W. Bradley, stating they have located the source of acid and setting forth a pre-treatment program to divert this material from the river to the sanitary sewer. The time table showed this will be completed shortly after July 15, 1971. Mr. Lubetkin replied on April 20, 1971, giving neutralization parameters and requesting residual oil be cleared from the sewer.

Observation of their outlet showed that the oil was being cleaned from the banks, slowly, by tidal action, and that the silt from the sewer had a cleaner look (brown not oily black). However, a sample of their discharge on May 18, contained a C. O. D. of 174 ml/l; therefore, Mr. Lubetkin wrote to them on May 26, concerning this and requested an up-to-date progress report on what has been accomplished.

On June 1, 1971, Mr. Bradley wrote to Mr. Lubetkin reporting that the condition of the river banks continues to improve and they feel, they have solved the oil problem. A pH meter had been ordered and a pretreatment acid holding reservoir to the sanitary sewer was completed.

On June 18, Mr. Lubetkin wrote to Crucible that he had observed a small oil slick at 1:15 P. M. and showed the slick to Mr. Art Whinn. Mr. Whinn informed him that an internal inspection had been scheduled for July 1. On June 28,

Crucible Steel Company continued

Mr. Lamborn, Crucible Manager, wrote to Mr. Lubetkin, informing him of an internal check scheduled for July 1. Unfortunately, due to the Public Hearing on Bonds on that date, Mr. Lubetkin was unable to check this himself, but was represented by Mr. L. Cuccinello. On July 16, Judge Lynch advised that a pretrial conference was being scheduled for September 27.

On July 20, Mr. Lubetkin inspected the inside of the sewer with representatives of Crucible. A slight oily film was visible at the mouth, but could not be seen further in the sewer. Therefore, either Crucible's contention that the oil comes from the silt, near the mouth of the sewer, purging itself of old oil was true, or the lack of sufficient light prevented us from seeing the slight sheen indicating the oil.

During August, the discharge was very good, On occasion spots of oil could be seen leaving the outlet, but a study of the water action did reveal, that, as the tide came in, spots of oil from the river, did, in fact, enter the Crucible outlet, and it appeared to be this extremely small amount of oil that is visible leaving the outlet as the tide went out.

During August and September, no pollution could be detected. The outlet area was a mess from the rubble of the storm Doria, but the bank was clean of oil, within the tidal reach. As of the end of September, 1971, this violation is considered eliminated

An automatic pH meter had been installed at the outfall to monitor the discharge to the river. Also, automatic neutralizing equipment was installed at their pretreatment tank to treat the discharge to the sanitary sewer.

At the end of December, the pH meter mal-functioned and had to be sent back to the factory for repairs. Mr. Lamborn promised to buy a spare so that in the future, a mal-functioning unit would be replaced while it is being repaired.

Violation & Elimination-Curtiss-Wright Corp., 1 Passaic Street, Wood-ridge, New Jersey
Intermittent to March 18, 1971

(J. Perrapato)

The discharge from this company to Feld's Brook intermittently contained oil. Because of complaints of the Commissioners, the company has installed a complete Dorr-Oliver treatment plant for the removal of this oil, however the plant had trouble getting in service, due to problems with the sludge recycling pump and with the caustic and polymer feed systems. Dorr-Oliver had a start-up engineer on the job working on these problems. The Aurora pump people had two men on February 22, checking out the sludge recycling pump and they had the system working for about a day.

846320005

RECEIVED

August 6, 1971

AUG 9 1971

U.S. STATE DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners *Report*
790 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey

Re: Monthly Report-July, 1971

Gentlemen:

The following is my monthly report which consists of
three parts:

- Part I: Special Reports Page 2
- Part II: Pollution violations that
were eliminated during the
month, together with a re-
port on how elimination
occurred..... Page 11
- Part III: Pollution violations that
were still discharging at
the end of the month into
the streams under the juris-
diction of the Passaic Val-
ley Sewerage Commissioners,
together with a report on
what is being done to abate
such pollution..... Page 17

City of Clifton-(continued)-

20" Concrete Storm Sewer- Main Avenue & Route 3-This storm sewer located at Main Avenue, north of Route 3 in the rear of the Firehouse, discharges a polluting material into Third River. The pollution generally consists of high coliform and intermittent high C.O.D. and turbidity. The De Camp Bus Lines, at Allwood Road & Main Avenue, has a wash area tied to this storm sewer (see De Camp Bus Lines, page 20) and may be the intermittent source of C. O. D. but they are not the source of the coliform. This sewer is actually a State Highway sewer and has a County sewer (Main Avenue) connecting to it. The City of Clifton sewer Department obtained drawings from the County Engineer's office so that the City and the Commissioners can sample this sewer at various locations as soon as dry weather returns.

Violation-Crucible Steel Company, Spalding Works,,
1000 South 4th Street, Harrison, N.J.

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PASSAIC VALLEY SEWERAGE COMMISSIONERS
DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION CONTROL

LABORATORY REPORT

STANDARD METHODS OF ANALYSIS A.P.H.A.

12/4/69 RESULTS EXPRESSED IN PARTS PER MILLION (p.p.m.)

DATE OF SAMPLE Dec. 2, 1969 TIME 11:00 A. M. SAMPLE NO. 52

SAMPLE OF Crucible Steel Co., Cape May St., into Passaic River, Harrison, N. J.

R. Bingham

TOTAL SOLIDS:—		BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND (B.O.D.)	
TOTAL MINERAL		TURBIDITY	16 wp
TOTAL VOLATILE		CHLORINE RESIDUAL	
SOLUBLE SOLIDS:—		COLIFORM (B. coli per ml.) M.P.N.	
SOLUBLE MINERAL		FLAMMABLE	
SOLUBLE VOLATILE		EXPLOSIMETER READING (PERCENT)	
SUSPENDED SOLIDS:—	9 vo	SETTLABLE SOLIDS (mls. Per Liter)	
SUSPENDED MINERAL	2 vo	pH	3.5 vo
SUSPENDED VOLATILE	7 vo		
ORGANIC NITROGEN			
AMMONIA NITROGEN			
NITRITE NITROGEN			
NITRATE NITROGEN			
TOTAL NITROGEN			
CHLORIDES AS CHLORINE	885 wp		
ALKALINITY AS CaCO ₃			
OXYGEN CONSUMED (C.O.D.)	58 wp		
DISSOLVED OXYGEN (D.O.)			

REMARKS:

Clear liquid.
No odor.
Trace of grayish sediment.

Alexander G. L. H. H.

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PASSAIC VALLEY SEWERAGE COMMISSIONERS

DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION CONTROL

LABORATORY REPORT

STANDARD METHODS OF ANALYSIS A.P.H.A.

RESULTS EXPRESSED IN PARTS PER MILLION (p.p.m.)

DATE OF SAMPLE Feb. 13, 1970 TIME 9:35 A.M. SAMPLE NO. 30

SAMPLE OF Crucible Steel 6' x 6' Storm Outlet into Passaic River, Harrison, N. J.

R. Bingham

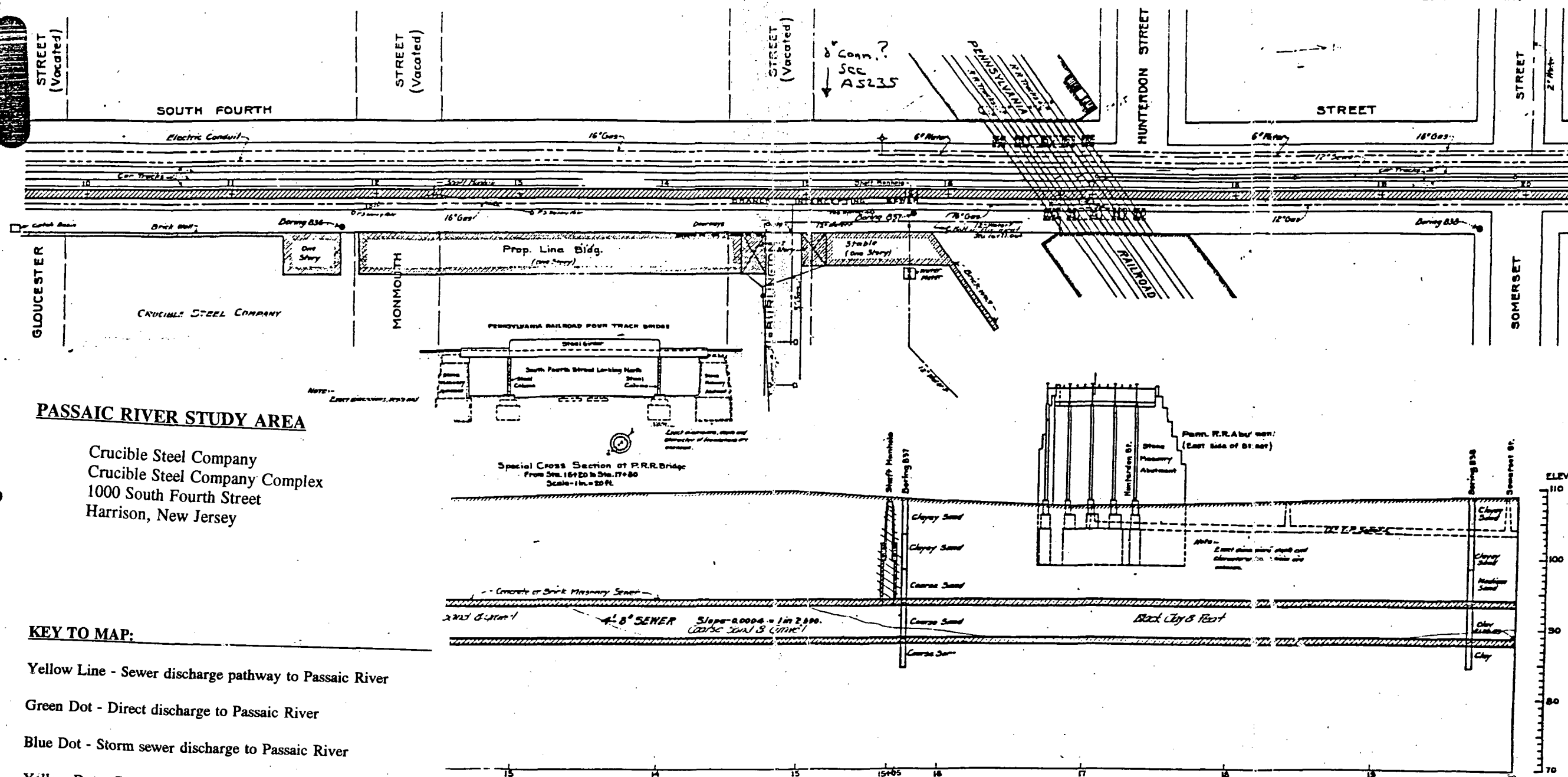
TOTAL SOLIDS:—		BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND (B.O.D.)	
TOTAL MINERAL		TURBIDITY	13 wp
TOTAL VOLATILE		CHLORINE RESIDUAL	
SOLUBLE SOLIDS:—		COLIFORM (B. coli per ml.) M.P.N.	
SOLUBLE MINERAL		FLAMMABLE	
SOLUBLE VOLATILE		EXPLOSIMETER READING (PERCENT)	
SUSPENDED SOLIDS:—	2 vo	SETTLEABLE SOLIDS (mls. Per Liter)	
SUSPENDED MINERAL		pH	4.2 vo
SUSPENDED VOLATILE		TEMPERATURE	48°F.
ORGANIC NITROGEN		OIL EXTRACTION	1.5 mg/l er
AMMONIA NITROGEN			
NITRITE NITROGEN			
NITRATE NITROGEN			
TOTAL NITROGEN			
CHLORIDES AS CHLORINE	92 wp		
ALKALINITY AS CaCO ₃			
OXYGEN CONSUMED (C.O.D.)	43 wp		
DISSOLVED OXYGEN (D.O.)			

REMARKS:

Slightly cloudy liquid.
Slight fine light gray suspended matter.
Slight oily odor.
Trace of oily supernatant.
Slight grayish sediment.

APPROVED
[Signature]
COMMISSIONER

846320009



PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA

Crucible Steel Company
Crucible Steel Company Complex
1000 South Fourth Street
Harrison, New Jersey

KEY TO MAP:

Yellow Line - Sewer discharge pathway to Passaic River

Green Dot - Direct discharge to Passaic River

Blue Dot - Storm sewer discharge to Passaic River

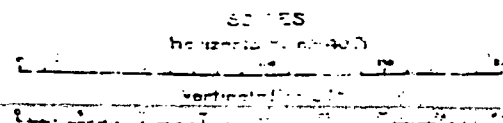
Yellow Dot - Combined sewer outfall ("CSO") discharge

Red Dot - Approximate location of CSO regulator

NOTE: - The borings and indications of subsurface materials, pipes and other underground structures are supposed to be approximately correct, but should they be found to be otherwise the Contractor shall have no claim on that account, it being expressly understood that the Commissioners do not warrant the plot to be approximately correct.

The precise character of the foundation and the location at any given point cannot be determined in advance but will be decided upon by the Engineer as occasion demands.

The sewer line may be moved within the limits of the street and taking wherever thought best by the Engineer.



State of New Jersey

PASSAIC VALLEY SEWERAGE COMMISSIONERS

KEARNY - HARRISON - NEWARK BRANCH INTERCEPTING SEWER

CONTRACT DRAWINGS: PART OF SECTION 27

SOUTH FOURTH STREET: HARRISON

PLAN AND PROFILE

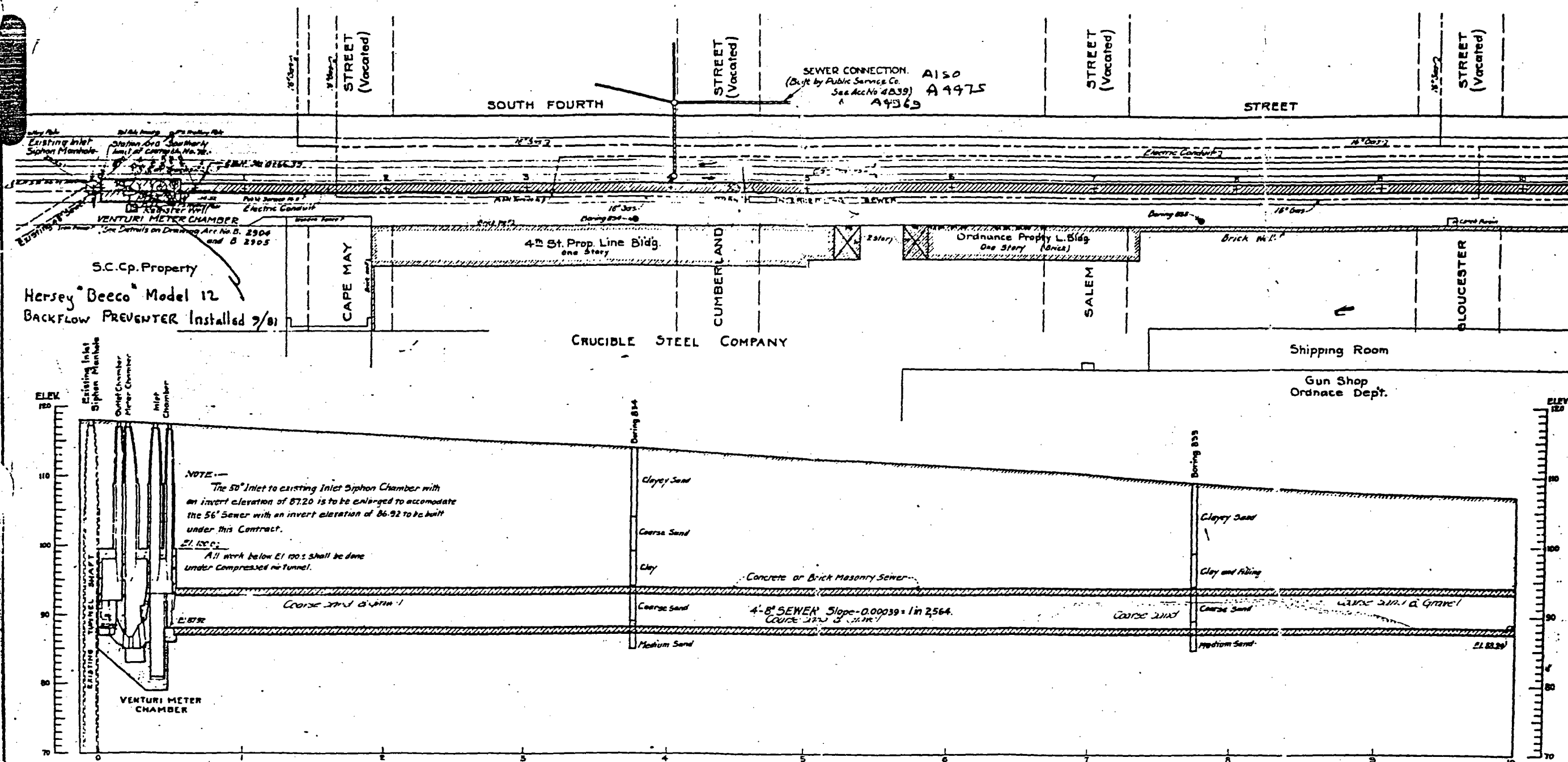
STATION 10 TO STATION 20

MAY 15, 1917

ACC. No. 82902

Wm. L. Wilson
Chief Engineer
Wm. L. Wilson
Principal Assistant Engineer

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The borings and indications of subsurface conditions and other underground structures are approximately correct, but should they be otherwise the Contractor shall have no claim it being expressly understood that the Engineer does not warrant the plot to be approxi-

of the foundation and the same not be determined in advance of the Engineer's occasion

The limits of the Engineer's street and taking.

SCALES
Horizontal—1 in. = 40 ft.
Vertical—1 in. = 8 ft.

Chief Engineer
Assistant Engineer

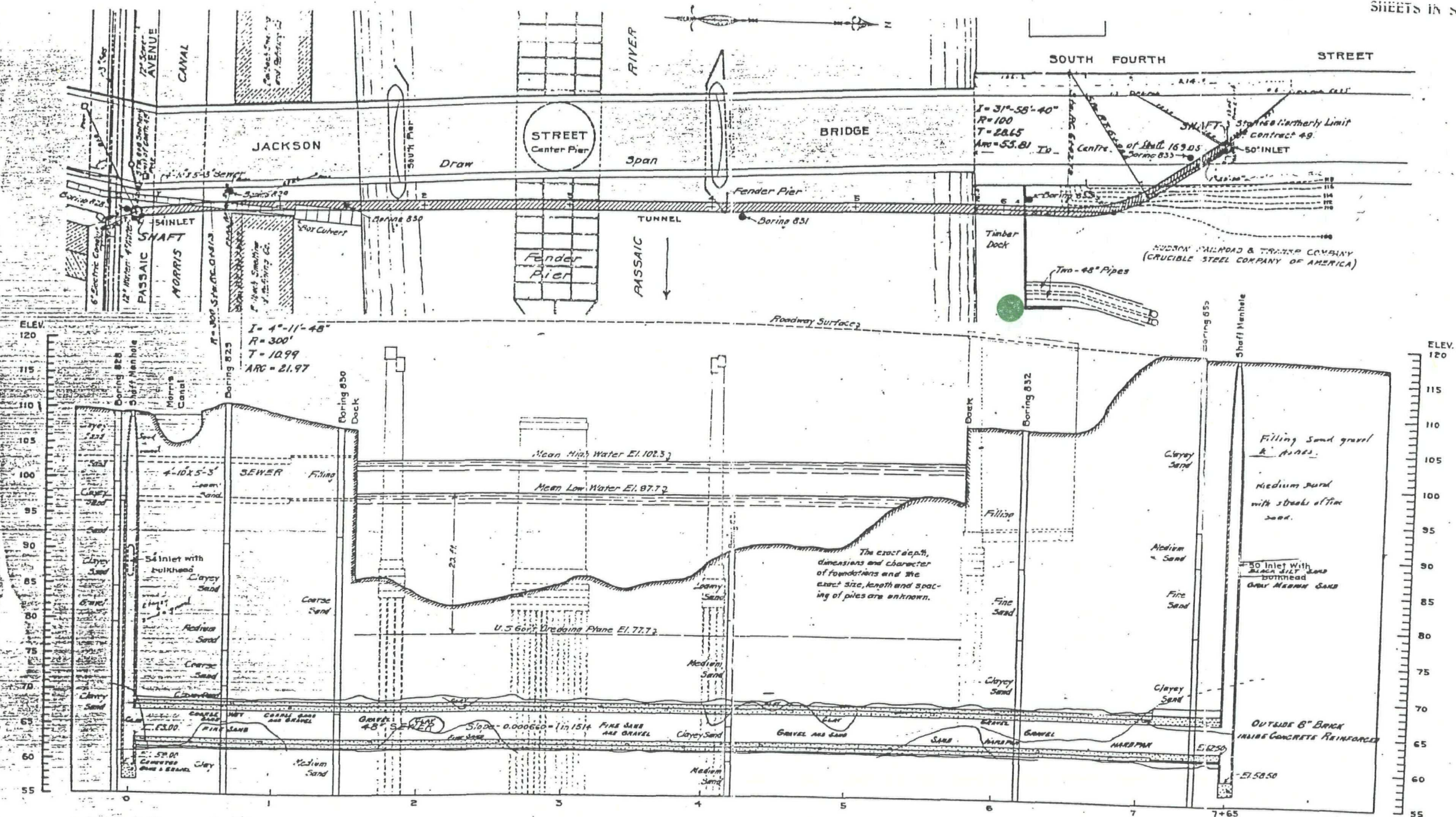
State of New Jersey
PASSAIC VALLEY SEWERAGE COMMISSIONERS
KEARNY - HARRISON - NEWARK
BRANCH INTERCEPTING SEWER
CONTRACT DRAWINGS: PART OF SECTION 27
SOUTH FOURTH STREET: HARRISON
PLAN AND PROFILE

STATION 0 TO STATION 10

MAY 15, 1917

Acc. No. B 2901

846320011



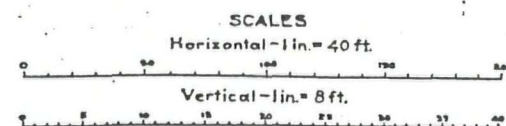
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The sewer line may be moved within the limits of the street and takings wherever thought best by the Engineer.

Notes:

The United States Government has contracted for the dredging of a portion of the Passaic River, including that adjacent to the Jackson Street Bridge. The dredging is in progress (June, 1914) but no dredging has been done at the site of the said bridge just when this dredging may be done is unknown. Further information may be obtained at the office of the Corps of Engineers, United States Army, Army Building, Wall Street, New York City.



KEY TO MAP:

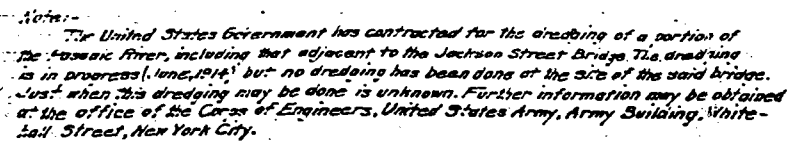
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State of New Jersey

'C VALLEY SEWERAGE COMMISSION

NY
I
OR
ASS.
NE
AT

Crucible Steel Company
Crucible Steel Company Complex
1000 South Fourth Street
Harrison, New Jersey



The crew list may be moved within the limits of the crew and ratings wherever thought best by the Commander.

Vertical-lin. = 8 ft.

JUNE 1, 1914

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